

## AGENDA REPORT

TO: Mayor & City Commissioners  
FROM: Diane Lyon, Clerk  
DATE: December 17, 2015  
RE: \*Communications

For the Agenda of December 21, 2015

**\*Note: This is a Consent Agenda item and is considered as routine by the City Commission. As such, this matter shall be automatically enacted by one motion with all other Consent Agenda items unless a Commissioner or citizen requests this item be individually discussed, in which event it shall be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered and acted upon in its designated sequence on the approved Clare City Commission agenda of December 21, 2015.**

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The following major items of correspondence were either received by or transmitted by the City since the last regularly scheduled City Commission meeting:

Another Charter Rate Increase. We've been notified that Charter Communications intends to impose another rate increase.

Consumers Energy Correspondence. The City received an informational letter outlining several topics from Consumers Energy .

Clare Newsletter. The City's most recent newsletter is provided for information.

Bureau of Elections News. The City's most recent newsletter is provided for information.

Thank You Note. The City received a thank you note from the Goodrich family.

Attachments. As outlined above.



December 15, 2015



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City of Clare  
202 W. Fifth Street  
Clare, MI 48617-1490

Dear Franchise Official:

Containing costs and efficiently managing our operations are critical to providing customers with the best value possible. Like every business, Charter faces rising costs that require occasional price adjustments.

As a result, customers in your community will be notified of the following price adjustments through a billing statement message on or after December 15, 2015:

- *Effective on February 15, 2016 pricing will be adjusted for the Change of Service Computerized Fee from \$2.99 to \$4.99 and Late Fee will be adjusted from \$7.95 to \$8.95.*

Charter continues to provide significant product enhancements, including adding new HD channels at no additional cost, and providing more than 10,000 On Demand choices, more than 1,500 of them in HD. As customers continue to expand their TV viewing to alternate devices such as tablets, Charter offers downloadable channel apps that enable customers to use these devices for viewing and to access their DVRs remotely. Also, Charter TV and Internet customers can now access the Charter Spectrum™ TV App, providing more than 100 live TV channels inside their home on their tablet or Smartphone at no additional charge.

Charter remains committed to providing excellent communications and entertainment services in your community and in each of the communities we serve. If you have any questions about these changes, please feel free to contact me at **(616) 607-2380**.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Vazquez  
Manager, Government Affairs  
Charter Communications

**WORKING TO DELIVER THE ENERGY  
YOU NEED, WHENEVER YOU NEED IT.**  
THAT'S OUR PROMISE TO MICHIGAN.



A CMS Energy Company



CITY OF CLARE  
202 W 5TH ST  
CLARE MI 48617-1457

Account # 100009670900  
Service Address 299 N MCEWAN ST  
CLARE MI 48617-0000

December 09, 2015

Dear City Of Clare:

The men and women of Consumers Energy work diligently to provide you with safe, reliable electric service. Besides responding to emergencies such as storms or car accidents that cause power outages, in the past two years several projects have been completed in Clare County to provide dependable service to you and your neighbors.

For Example:

- Since trees are involved in about 30 percent of all power outages, we have increased efforts to keep power lines clear. More than 26,500 trees and other vegetation were trimmed or removed from more than 260 miles of lines to reduce the number of interruptions you and your neighbors experienced at a cost of more than \$1.6 million. To view a video and learn more about how trees and power lines can share the space, visit [www.ConsumersEnergy.com/forestry](http://www.ConsumersEnergy.com/forestry).
- We also are making the system stronger, thereby helping to reduce the impact of storms. Wires, poles and other equipment were replaced as part of more than 110 projects at a cost of \$2.3 million.

Consumers Energy is committed to providing safe, reliable service, while also helping you save energy and save money.

For information on rebates and incentives and instant savings on energy efficiency products and services for your home, please visit [www.ConsumersEnergy.com/myhome](http://www.ConsumersEnergy.com/myhome). This site also allows you to perform a free online home energy audit through the Home Energy Analyzer.

Recently, we launched a new online outage map that allows you to report a power outage and get service restoration updates anytime, anywhere. Visit [www.ConsumersEnergy.com/outagemap](http://www.ConsumersEnergy.com/outagemap) from a desktop, laptop, tablet or smartphone. You still may call (800) 477-5050 and report outages or get updates. In the best case scenario, we hope you never have to use it.

Thank you for being a customer of Consumers Energy. We're committed to bringing you the energy you need whenever you need it. That's Our Promise to Michigan.

Sincerely,

Harmony Nowlin  
Area Manager

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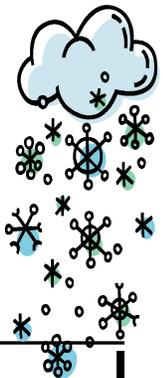
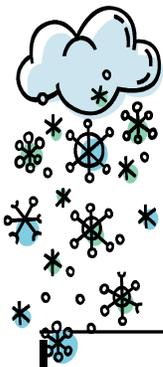
December 2015/January 2016

# Clare

202 West Fifth Street  
(989) 386-7541, Fax(989)386-4508

[www.cityofclare.org](http://www.cityofclare.org)

8am—5pm Monday thru Friday



*From all your Friends here at the City of Clare, we wish you and your families a safe and happy holiday season.*

## **FOR EMERGENCIES CALL 911**

### **City of Clare Phone Numbers**

Airport.....	<b>386-0445</b>
Chamber of Commerce.....	<b>386-2442</b>
City Hall.....	<b>386-7541</b>
Department of Public Works.....	<b>ext. 201</b>
City Police (non-emergency).....	<b>386-2121</b>
Public Library.....	<b>386-7576</b>
Water/Wastewater Plant.....	<b>386-2321</b>

### **Other Important Phone Numbers**

Clare County Sheriff.....	<b>539-7166</b>
Poison Center.....	<b>1-800-528-8234</b>
Post Office.....	<b>386-7682</b>
State Police.....	<b>1-989-773-5951</b>



### **City Office Holiday**

#### **Closures Schedule:**

Thursday, December 24, 2015  
 Friday, December 25, 2015  
 Thursday, December 31, 2015  
 Friday, January 1, 2016



*No Parking on City Streets 3:00 am to 6:00 am  
November 15th thru April 1st*

City Code, Chapter 126, Section 8.25, prohibits parking on City Streets from 3:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. between the dates of November 15th through April 1st of each year. Our Department of Public Works crew needs to keep our streets clear of snow and ice. The price you will pay for untimely parking is \$30.00 per offense.

## ***Clare County Veteran's Memorial Park***

### ***Flag Pole Sponsorship***

This outstanding memorial to honor all Central Michigan veterans of all eras and all branches of service is scheduled to open to the public in May 2016. Making the dream of the Memorial a reality is credited to the tremendously dedicated efforts of a volunteer committee organized and managed by Renee Haley, the Clare County Veterans Affairs Officer. One of the last crowning architectural elements of the Memorial are flag poles – one that will continuously fly the American flag and one to fly the flag of each branch of the Armed Forces of the United States. The cost of each flag pole is \$2,500. The City of Clare has offered to sponsor the purchase of the American flag pole to demonstrate the gratitude of the citizens of Clare to all Central Michigan veterans and to show our support for this Memorial. But we have committed not to use tax dollars for this cause. Instead, we intend to raise the \$2,500 needed to purchase the flagpole through donations from Clare residents. To date we have received \$1,200 in donations for this cause. Donations of any and all amounts are being gratefully accepted at Clare City Hall, 202 West Fifth Street, Clare, Michigan 48617. If you wish to show your support of the Memorial and to recognize our veterans, please consider making a donation.

## CLARE CITY POLICE COMMUNITY NEWS

Here are some suggestions from the Clare Police Department for this Christmas season.

Clare Schools will be closed during the holiday period. Kids will be outside during the day and need a watchful eye from motorists.

Is Santa bringing a new bicycle to your house? Please have it registered with our police department. Doing so will aid us in returning it to you if it is lost or stolen.

Leaving town over the holidays? Contact us - we will provide extra patrol of your property while you are away. This also provides us with a way to contact you if we receive a call about a problem at your home.

If you are traveling out of town, automatic timers for your inside house lights can help reduce crime. You can also ask your neighbor to watch your home, shovel the walks, pick up newspapers, collect mail, and park in the driveway from time to time. Avoid posting your travel plans on social media as this can alert thieves of your absence. ALWAYS be sure to lock all doors, including your overhead garage door, windows, and pet doors and remove any "hidden" keys.

Christmas and New Year offers the Clare City Police Department an opportunity to reflect and say thank you to the community we serve. As a small police agency, we are grateful for the encouragement and support of our citizens. From our families to yours, we wish you a Happy Holiday Season.

### Street Lighting

If you notice a street light out, please call City Hall's Department of Public Works at 386-7541 ext. 201 to report the problem.

### **Get Ready to go Ice Skating!**

The Clare ice skating rink will be opening (as soon as nature allows) for your enjoyment! The Shamrock Park ice rink is lighted and hours run from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm.

### Enjoy our Clare Parks, Trails and Pathways this Winter!

**Just because it's winter doesn't mean the outdoor fun has to stop. Winter is a great time to get out and enjoy the Pere Marquette Rail Trail, the McIreland Nature Trails, and the Kevin Sherwood Memorial Trail. Try our parks and trails for walking, snowshoeing, or cross country skiing, or build a snowman in the park. Clare Parks and Trails are for all seasons!**

## ***BRUSH CHIPPING***

Brush chipping is a 'time and weather permitting' service provided by the Department of Public Works. Brush to be chipped is to be placed at the curb before 7:00 a.m. on the first day of scheduled chipping. Chipping may be delayed by snowfall. City crews will go down each street one time only. Our tentative chipping dates starting in 2015 are:

**January 4th (including Christmas trees),**

**February 1st & February 29th**

### ***GARBAGE/RECYCLING***

Yard waste collection by WMI ended in November. We will notify you by newsletter in the spring when yard waste is to resume.

Christmas Day and New Year's Day both fall on a Friday this year, therefore, there will be no change in pick-up dates.

### **GIVING BACK**

Consumers Energy has donated nearly \$7,300 of furniture and other office items from its former Clare Service Center to four Clare County nonprofit organizations and the City of Clare. "We recently opened our new \$8.7 million Clare Service Center after serving customers for many years in our former building on East Third Street. Some furniture and other items located there weren't needed in the new building, but we felt it could be useful to others. We wanted to give back to the community by inviting nonprofit organizations and the City of Clare on a first-come, first-serve basis to take items that could be of benefit to them. It's a win-win for all involved," said Harmony Nowlin, regional public affairs manager for Consumers Energy.



**From:** Michigan Bureau of Elections [MISOS@public.govdelivery.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2015 11:31 AM  
**To:** clare-ci@miqvf.org  
**Subject:** News Update - Presidential Primary Candidate Listing, Mailing AV Applications, and More

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)



December 18, 2015



## Presidential Primary Candidate Listing - Update

Last Friday, Roque Rocky De La Fuente submitted petitions to gain access to the Democratic ballot. As a result, certification of the Presidential Primary Candidate Listing will be completed by the Board of State Canvassers on December 29th at 1:30 p.m.

The [Unofficial Presidential Primary Candidate List](#) is available. Ballots **may not be ordered** until the Board of State Canvassers has certified the list.

County Clerks have been notified and further communication will be sent as more information is available.

## Mailing AV Applications - Presidential Primary



Many of the state's permanent absentee voters spend their winters in another state. This will require some extra effort when it comes time to send their AV application for the Presidential Primary.

Things to note:

- the use of bulk mail permits will not allow mail to be forwarded

## IN THIS ISSUE

- Presidential Primary Candidate Listing
- Mailing AV Applications
- New eLearning Center Launched
- Qualified Voter File Classes

### New eLearning Center Launched!

The new eLearning Center is now available. Please check your inbox for an email outlining how to access the new website and your login credentials. If you haven't received your welcome email or need to create an account, please email [electionselearning@michigan.gov](mailto:electionselearning@michigan.gov). Documents and videos to help you learn to use the new software are available on the login page: <https://mielections.csod.com>

### Qualified Voter File New User Classes



BOE is offering a **QVF Training for New Users** in locations outside of Lansing. This class prepares a user to manage voter registration through the State of Michigan's Qualified Voter File software.

Please do not enroll if you are an experienced or previously trained user.

Register for a class session in

- AV applications may be forwarded - consider removing any return to sender information printed on your AV application envelopes
- mail permanent AV applications a week or two earlier than your normal time frame
- emphasize to the voter the need for a proper mailing address on the application as ballots may not be forwarded
- process returned mail with care and as soon as possible upon its return

Use the communication channels available to your jurisdiction to communicate with these voters now. Encourage them to plan ahead by using your website, social media, or printed media options (newsletters, tax inserts, water bills, etc.).



The Bureau of Elections wishes you and yours a wonderful holiday season. In observance of the holiday, we will be closed on Thursday December 24th and Thursday December 25th. There will be no News Update next week. News Updates will resume the week of December 28th.

the new [eLearning Center](#), under the Subject "Classes" or by searching for the key words "qvf class."

Class are available at the following dates and locations and will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.:

Oshtemo Twp (Kalamazoo Co) – January 7th  
 Haring Twp (Wexford Co) – January 8th  
 Lenox Twp (Macomb Co) – January 15th  
 Ogemaw Twp (Ogemaw Co) – January 26th

#### Helpful Links



Questions? Please contact the Bureau of Elections at 1-800-292-5973 or [elections@michigan.gov](mailto:elections@michigan.gov).

The Bureau of Elections News Update will always be sent to MERIT email accounts. If other election administrations that do not have MERIT email access would like to receive this newsletter as well use the Subscribe link below to have it sent directly to another email account.

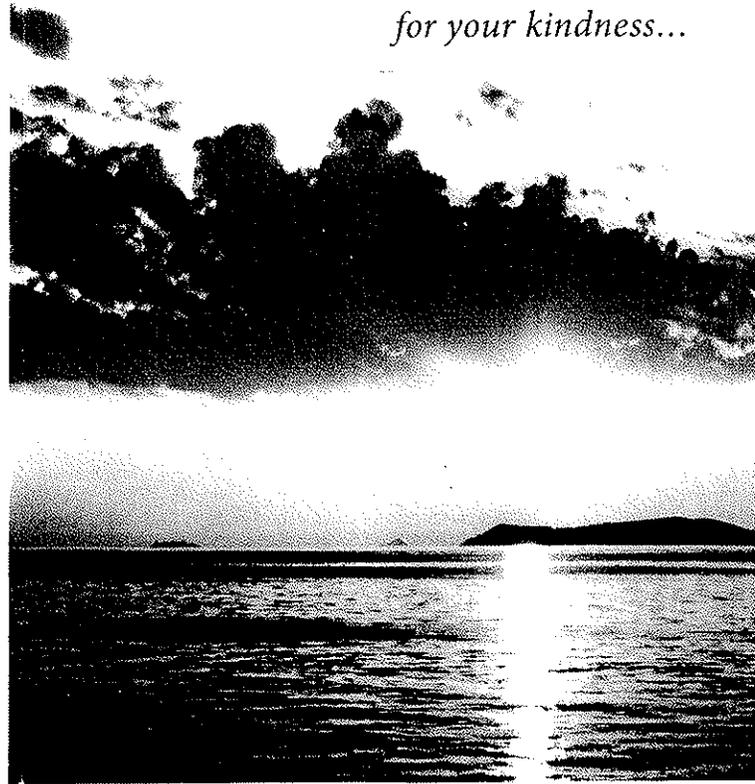
It is recommended that you add [misos@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov](mailto:misos@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov) and [MISOS@public.govdelivery.com](mailto:MISOS@public.govdelivery.com) to your safe senders list, as well as your [@miqvf.org](mailto:@miqvf.org) email address if you have MERIT email forwarded to another email account.



Questions?  
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Thanking you  
for your kindness...



Tender Thoughts

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TEC121369200F  
©AGC, LLC

Topper  
To the Clare City Commission & Staff:  
Thank you so very much  
for the cash donation.  
Craig and I gave it to  
The Munson Hospice House.

The care in which Mom received  
there during her illness was  
exceptional, with so much love,  
warmth and kindness.  
Again, please accept our  
appreciation.

Craig & Lynn Hoduel

...and thanking God for you.

Your expression of sympathy  
will always be remembered  
by the family of  
Shirley Hoduel